Serial No. 10/771,872 Docket No. RDID 03020 US Response date December 4, 2009

Reply to Office Action of September 4, 2009

OK TO ENTER: /LA/

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## Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

## Listing of Claims

 (Currently Amended) A method for detecting an analyte comprising: causing a redox reaction by contacting a sample containing the analyte with a detection reagent which contains:

an enzyme for reducing or oxidizing the analyte;

an optional coenzyme; and

a compound of the general formula (I) as a fluorimetric redox indicator:

$$(R^3)_n \qquad \bigoplus_{N \in \mathbb{N}^1 \mathbb{R}^2} (I)$$

wherein

 $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each independently selected from R,  $(CH_2CH_2O)_mR,\,COR,\,COOR$  and OCOR.

 $R^3$  in each case is independently selected from NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, R, OR, OCOR, COOR, SR and halogen,

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R is H or  $C_1$ – $C_4$  alkyl, where alkyl is optionally substituted with <u>one or</u> more functional group independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, OR, SR, NR<sub>2</sub>, COOR, CONR<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>3</sub>R and salts thereof or/and thereof, and PO(OR)<sub>3</sub> and salts thereof,

m is an integer from 1-20, and

n is 1, 2 or 3; and

performing a fluorimetric determination by irradiating the sample with excitation light of a predetermined wavelength, and

detecting the presence of the analyte as a result of the redox reaction and based on the fluorescence emission light emitted by the sample.

- 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein  $\mathbb{R}^1$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are a  $C_1$ – $C_2$  alkyl group substituted with OH.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is NO<sub>2</sub>.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the redox indicator (I) can directly accept electrons.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the redox indicator (I) can accept electrons via a mediator.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein an oxidizable substance is detected as the analyte.
- (Canceled)
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein glucose, lactate, alcohol, galactose, cholesterol, fructose, glycerol, pyruvate, creatinine, alanine, phenylalanine, leucine, triglycerides or HDL cholesterol are detected as analytes.

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- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein glucose is detected using glucose oxidase, glucose dye oxidoreductase or glucose dehydrogenase/diaphorase,
- 10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein an enzyme catalysing a redox reaction or an enzyme whose reaction can be coupled to an oxidoreductase reaction is detected as the analyte.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein glutamate-oxalacetate transaminase (GOT), (AST), glutamate-pyruvate transaminase (GPT), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) or creatine kinase (CK) are detected as analytes.

## 12-13. (Canceled)

 (Currently Amended) A method for detecting an analyte, the method comprising: contacting a sample containing the analyte with a detection reagent comprising a compound of the general formula (I);

wherein

 $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each independently selected from R,  $(CH_2CH_2O)_mR$ , COR, COOR and OCOR.

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 $R^3$  in each case is independently selected from NO2, CN, R, OR, OCOR, COOR, SR and halogen,

R is H or  $C_1$ – $C_4$  alkyl, where alkyl is optionally substituted with <u>one or more functional group independently selected from the group consisting of halogen</u>, OR, SR, NR<sub>2</sub>, COOR, CONR<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>3</sub>R and salts thereof or/and thereof, and PO(OR)<sub>3</sub> and salts thereof,

m is an integer from 1–20, and n is 1, 2 or 3:

causing a redox reaction through said contacting, whereby during said redox reaction the analyte is oxidized and the compound of the general formula (I) is reduced;

irradiating the sample with an excitation light of a predetermined wavelength;

detecting a fluorescence light emission emitted by the irradiated sample, the fluorescence light emission having a wavelength different from the predetermined wavelength; and

determining the analyte qualitatively, semi-quantitatively, or quantitatively through analysis of the fluorescence light emission.